

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 IO-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 DRC-01 /119 W

----- 125145

O R 301100Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7227

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 2052

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CD

SUBJ: AMERICAN MISSIONARIES EXPELLED FROM CHAD

REFS: (A) STATE 234407; (B) NDJAMENA 2036

1. PRIOR TO RECEIPT REF A I TOOK OCCASION OF APPOINTMENT NOVEMBER 29 WITH NEW FONMIN DORALTA TO RAISE ISSUE OF MISSIONARY EXPULSIONS. DORALTA, WHO RETURNED TO CHAD THIS WEEK AFTER EXTENDED TRIP ABROAD, CONFESSED HE WAS "ASTONISHED" TO LEARN OF BAPTIST EXPULSIONS, PARTICULARLY SINCE HE KNEW OF GOOD WORK THEY HAD BEEN DOING.

2. I INFORMED FONMIN THAT, WHILE I SPOKE WITHOUT SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS, I KNEW USG WOULD BE CHAGRINED OVER GOC HANDLING OF THESE CASES. ASPECT WHICH TROUBLED ME MOST, I STRESSED, WAS FAILURE OF GOC (A) TO TAKE EMBASSY INTO ITS CONFIDENCE AND (B) DENIAL TO AMCITS OF RIGHT TO ACCESS TO CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVE. I SAID USG WOULD NOT RPT NOT CONTEST RIGHT OF GOC TO EXPEL ANY NON-CHADIANS IT WISHED AND RESERVES SUCH RIGHT TO ITSELF, HOWEVER USG BELIEVES INTERNATIONAL LAW CONTAINS WELL ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLE OF RIGHT OF ACCESS TO CONSULAR OFFICIALS BY ALIENS IN TROUBLE. (LACING INSTRUCTIONS NOW
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RECEIVED I OMITTED ANY REFERENCE TO VIENNA CONVENTION.) US

ACCORDS RIGHT OF ACCESS TO ALL ALIENS WITHIN ITS TERRITORY AND EXPECTS ITS CITIZENS TO BE ACCORDED SAME RIGH ABROAD.

3. I TOLD DORALTA I WAS PARTICULARLY TROUBLED BECAUSE THIS INCIDENT MARKED FIRST STAIN ON OTHERWISE UNBLEMISHED RECORD OF EXCELLENT US-CHADIAN RELATIONS SINCE INDEPENDENCE. I SAID I REGRETTED SEEING END OF TWO GENERATIONS OF WORK IN EDUCATIONAL, MEDICAL AND DENTAL FIELDS BY BAPTISTS AND HOPED SOME WAY COULD BE FOUND ESPECIALLY TO PREVENT CLOSING OF KOUMRA HOSPITAL. I EXPRESSED HOPE THAT, IF ANY FURTHER SUCH EXPULSIONS WERE CONTEMPLATED, GOC WOULD LET US KNOW SUFFICIENTLY IN ADVANCE TO PERMIT US TO INSURE PROPERTY AND WELFARE OF US CITIZENS WAS SECURED. FONMIN SAID HE UNDERSTOOD MY POINTS AND WOULD DO HIS BEST TO INSURE EMBASSY WOULD BE APPROACHED IF OTHER AMERICANS ARE IN DIFFICULTY HERE.

4. FINALLY I WARNED DORALTA THAT I WAS AWAITING DEPARTMENT'S REACTION AND INSTRUCTIONS AND WOULD PROBABLY WISH TO RAISE ISSUE AGAIN SOON.

5. COMMENT: DUE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP OF TOMBALBAYE AND DORALTA I HAVE NO DOUBT DISPLEASURE I EXPRESSED WILL BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT. SIMILAR CONCERN HAS, OF COURSE, ALSO BEEN EXPRESSED BY EMBOFFS IN CONTACTS WITH SENIOR SECURITY AND IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES. DORALTA IS HIMSELF MEMBER OF SARA TRIBE AND ONE WHO RECENTLY SUBMITTED HIMSELF TO YONDOH INITIATION RITES, WHICH, OF COURSE, LEVES ROOM FOR SOME DOUBT RE SYMPATHY OUR DEMARCHES WILL RECEIVE.

6. EMBASSY APPRECIATES HAVING STATEMENT OF US POLICY CONTAINED REF A AND IS PREPARING NOTE IN FRENCH FOR PRESENTATION TO FONOFF SOONEST.
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